
Northwest Regional Maintenance Coordinator Monthly Reader

6 APRIL 2001

GENERAL INTEREST



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Admiral Vern Clark, visited the Northwest region 15-18 March 2001 to familiarize himself with the bases, to view earthquake damage and to meet with Navy leaders.

CDR Thomas Wears relieved CDR Kevin Torcolini as Commanding Officer of USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731), Blue, in a Change of Command Ceremony, held at Subase Bangor Combined Mess Open Trident Ballroom on 2 March 2001.

CDR Kevin Torcolini relieved CDR Barry Bruner as Commanding Officer of USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728), Gold, in a Change of Command Ceremony on 19 March 2001.

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) has been named the FY2000 NAVSEA award winner for Achievement in Safety Ashore (large industrial category). This selection highlights the achievements and dedication to safety at PSNS and within the NAVSEA community. NAVSEA has endorsed PSNS as its nominee for both the CNO and Secretary of the Navy Industrial Safety awards.

The two crews of USS FLORIDA (SSBN 728) have been recognized as the top ballistic missile submarine in the Navy by the U.S. Strategic Command, which announced that the Bangor based Trident submarine had won this year's Omaha Trophy. The Omaha Trophy is awarded annually to the unit with a strategic deterrence mission demonstrating the highest standards of performance.

USS NEVADA (SSBN 733) arrived at PSNS on 24 January 2001 for an Engineered Overhaul (EOH). This overhaul equates to over 300,000 mandays of work for PSNS and Naval Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Pacific Northwest (NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST) and additional work for several contractors and ship's force personnel. Leading the Project Team, which will go by the name of "Team Green", is the Commanding Officer of NEVADA, CDR Walt Luthiger and the shipyard Project Superintendent Gary Darcey.

Team Green has the dedicated charter to "return our ship to the Fleet as the most modern, potent warship in the world."

NEVADA is the eighth OHIO Class Trident submarine built by General Dynamic's Electric Boat Division in Groton, CT.

The USS JOHN C. STENNIS (CVN 74) Phased Incremental Availability (PIA) continues on schedule and budget. During the past five months, the STENNIS Project Team (PSNS, Newport News, COMNAVAIRPAC, and ship's force) has completed over 130,000 mandays of maintenance and upgrades.

USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1) recently seized the opportunity while in San Diego, CA, from 26 January to 13 February 2001 to complete a two week Intermediate Maintenance Availability. Most notably SACRAMENTO received a facelift with the replacement of non-skid deck coverings on the flight deck and weather decks. The ship also received a fresh coat of paint on her superstructures and sides. Technical maintenance assistance was provided by a variety of San Diego commands and contractors.

The Navy has announced plans to relocate the headquarters of Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair (SUPSHIP), Puget Sound from a leased, commercial facility in downtown Everett to a government-owned facility in Bremerton, WA. Collocating SUPSHIP Puget Sound with PSNS will facilitate ship maintenance partnering opportunities in the Pacific Northwest. The move is expected to reduce costs and improve services to the U.S. Navy Fleet. SUPSHIP Puget Sound will move into "Building 844" located at the northwest corner of Park and Burwell Street when renovation is complete. This building was built by the Navy in 1961 and served as an enlisted men's club until 1989. The facility served various other functions, such as a training site, from 1989 to the late 1990's, when the shipyard consolidated its work spaces inside the industrial area. The building has been vacant since that time.

This action constitutes a change of duty station for 47 civilian and three military billets assigned to SUPSHIP Puget Sound Headquarters. No billets, functions or positions will be eliminated.

Guam's COMSUBRON 15 has been reactivated. CAPT Dick Corpus officially assumed command of COMSUBRON 15 during a reactivation ceremony held on board USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40) 23 February 2001. After 20 years of dormancy the squadron was reactivated to support the homeporting of up to three Los Angeles class fast attack submarines. The Guam based submarines are currently scheduled to be phased in over the

next several years with the first submarine, USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705) arriving as early as 2002.

Navy's oldest shore installation, the Washington Navy Yard, formally welcomed the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEASYS COM) from Crystal City, a move that will double the size of the Navy Yard's workforce and inject new life into the long moribund base. The ribbon-cutting was held on 2 March 2001 at the new headquarters of NAVSEASYS COM, a historic brick factory where 16-inch guns used on World War II battleships were assembled. Guests sat in a bright atrium beneath an enormous crane once used to move the heavy guns which has been incorporated into the building's new design.

COMNAVSEASYS COM is the largest of the Navy's system commands, and is in the process of moving 4,000 plus workers from Crystal City. About 1,000 have arrived since the move began in January 2001. Additional workers are moving at the rate of about 200 a week. The move is expected to be completed by July 2001.

The Everett, WA, home-ported nuclear aircraft carrier USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) will cross Puget Sound 10 April 2001 to begin a Planned Incremental Availability (PIA), at PSNS in Bremerton WA. LINCOLN will have modifications installed in order to be the first carrier to support a F/A-18 Super Hornet squadron during the ship's 2002 deployment. In addition to altering the ship itself for new missions, a local area network identified as NAVMAX/ISIS is being installed which will connect the squadron's ready rooms with air operations to increase communications and provide enhanced capabilities during mission briefings. The Sailors' quality of life will also be improved. Ship's force will install new modular racks in crew berthing spaces and a great many of the ship's heads will undergo major rehabilitation.

It only took one swing for former First Lady Nancy Reagan to break the traditional bottle of champagne across the bow of the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, named for her husband. President George W. Bush assisted in the christening of USS RONALD REAGAN in Newport News, VA, 4 March 2001 in freezing temperatures and steady rain. President Bush took the opportunity to "rededicate American policy to Ronald Reagan's vision of optimism, modesty and resolve." "Ronald Reagan understood that the advance of freedom depends on American strength," President Bush said. "We must have a military that is second to none, and that includes a Navy that is second to none."

RONALD REAGAN will be the Navy's ninth Nimitz-class carrier. The carrier will be delivered to the Navy in early 2003.

The Navy commissioned its newest guided missile destroyer, USS WINSTON S. CHURCHILL (DDG 81), 10 March 2001, during a ceremony at Town Point Park in Norfolk, VA.

This is the fifth American warship to be named in honor of an Englishman and will be the only one in active service named after a foreign dignitary.

USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64) recently began a scheduled six month deployment. This will be CONSTELLATION'S 20th deployment in its 40 year history.

Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) has established a new office that will consolidate and provide oversight for all Navy Voluntary Education (VOLED) and serve as the focal point for direction and evaluation of Naval Education and Training Command (NAVEDTRACOM) education programs. The newly formed Education Programs Division will be a link between the CNO offices of the director of Naval Training and Education (N79) in Washington D.C., which is in charge of establishing VOLED policies, and the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC) at Saufley Field in Pensacola, which is responsible for executing Navy wide VOLED programs.

The Navy has announced that USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) was the first U. S. aircraft carrier to moor at the Republic of Singapore's new deep-draft vessel pier at Changi Naval Base. CNO Admiral Vern Clark joined his Singaporean counterpart, Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Lui Tuck Yew, in commemorating this first time event at Changi.

NORTHWEST MAINTENANCE INTEGRATION STUDY TEAMS

Ten Maintenance Integration study teams have been stood up in the Northwest region. The teams have been tasked to study ship maintenance processes used by PSNS and NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST, with the intent of making them seamless. The teams are Engineering/Planning and QA, Training, Resources, Military Integration, Personnel Transfers/Employee Relations, Metrics, Business/Customer Interface, Financial Integration, Automated Information Systems, and Operations. Each team is addressing specific taskings developed by the Integration Management Team (IMT) and approved by the PSNS and NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST Commanding Officers. Our intent is to provide updates on team progress in the Reader. Additionally, team leaders and minutes are posted on the NWRMC web site.

The Metrics Team has intensified their meeting schedule in order to provide the required metrics in an expeditious manner. The Metrics Team has completed the research of current NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST and PSNS metrics and established a baseline. The Team has reviewed Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, COMNAVSEASYSOM, Submarine Squadron 17, Naval Audit Service, Government Accounting Office, ANTEON Corporation and Price, Coopers and Waterhouse metric reports and recommendations. The metrics were then categorized and the high level

'dashboard' metrics selected. The next step is to present them to the stakeholders for approval.

The metrics team has two new members, Mr. Dave Milligan from PSNS and Mr. Fred Seaman from NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST. Mr. Frank Bankes has provided expert Team support. The Metrics Team would like to thank two previous NAVIMFAC PACNORWEST members, Mr. Norman Johnson and Mr. Rick Anderson. Mr. Anderson has been selected for a GS-13 position in NAVSEA and will transfer in the near future.

Training Team: The Training Team has continued to meet and work training issues. The meetings are being held via telephone conference calls to accommodate several of the team members' heavy work loads. The Team is presently working on welder workmanship training, fork lift training requirements and qualifications for ladders and sheet metal workers. The Training Team has updated their POA&M, and is ready at this time to support consolidation, when directed.

REGIONAL DIVE LOCKER (RDL):

CINCPACFLT MSG DTG 181927Z Mar 01 stated "Constellation is underway for her deployment following the completion of emergent repairs to her starboard rudder. The timely resolution of this difficult and unique repair serves as indisputable proof of the professionalism, dedication and technical skill of all involved. The talent and around the clock effort spent to make this success possible on the part the crew as well as the on-site project team has been followed closely and admired greatly. Please pass my appreciation to the following individuals and organizations: Rick Jackson and his PSNS Dive Team, BMCM Gailard, HTC Barker and their San Diego consolidated Dive Unit, LT Rob McClellan, Jim Fenner and their NAVSEA OOC Dive Team, John Smith and Lance Shupe from Phoenix Marine , Bob Stratton, Al Tuttle, and Jerry Maurer from PSNS Design, Clay Dickerson and Tim Ferguson from PSNS Project Management, John Oatley, SUPSHIP San Diego, Weldon Gimbel, Chuck Horrell, Pat West, Jeff Vannederynen and Bud Camenzind from NAVSEA PMS 312 and 05, and John Bently, CNAP. I'm sure there were others and to all my thanks. Admiral Fargo sends."

NWRMC POC: LT BRIAN LAWRENCE DSN 439-0842 or
COMMERCIAL (360)-476-0842

*****REGIONAL MAINTENANCE MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/VISITS*****

Waterfront Maintenance Management Course:

The next Waterfront Maintenance Management Course for Ships Maintenance Material Officers, 3M Coordinators, Division Officers, Workcenter Supervisors, and other maintenance supervisory personnel is scheduled for 18-19 April 2001 at Naval Station Bremerton, in Building 433, room B9. For additional information or seat assignment, contact CWO3 Langlois at commercial (360) 476-4871, DSN 439-4871 or by fax at (360) 476-0784.

NWRMC WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.pnwrmc.navy.mil

The next issue date for the Reader is 4 May 2001.